

(2) *Responding State responsibilities.* (i) Within 15 calendar days of receipt of a request for a review of a child support order in the responding State, the appropriate processing agency in the responding State must determine whether a review should be conducted, in accordance with paragraph (c)(4) of this section and the responding State's procedures for review and adjustment of child support orders.

(ii) Within 180 calendar days of determining that a review should be conducted or locating the non-requesting parent, whichever occurs later, the responding State must send the notice that a review will be conducted to each parent, conduct a review, adjust the order or determine that the order should not be adjusted, and provide the notice of the adjustment or determination and the right to challenge the adjustment or determination in accordance with paragraphs (c) (6) through (8) of this section.

(iii) The State may meet the notice requirements of § 303.7(c)(8) of this part by sending the notices of the review required under paragraphs (c)(6) and (c)(7) of this section to the parent in the initiating State through the IV-D agency in the initiating State.

(3) *Applicable laws and procedures.* The applicable laws and procedures for review and adjustment of child support orders, including the State guidelines for setting child support awards, established in accordance with § 302.56 of this chapter, are those of the State in which the review and adjustment, or determination that there be no adjustment, take place.

[57 FR 30681, July 10, 1992, as amended at 57 FR 61581, Dec. 28, 1992; 58 FR 7040, Feb. 3, 1993]

### § 303.10 [Reserved]

### § 303.11 Case closure criteria.

(a) The IV-D agency shall establish a system for case closure.

(b) In order to be eligible for closure, the case must meet at least one of the following criteria:

(1) In the case of a child who has reached the age of majority, there is no longer a current support order and arrearages are under \$500 or unenforceable under State law;

(2) In the case of a child who has not reached the age of majority, there is no longer a current support order and arrearages are under \$500 or unenforceable under State law;

(3) The absent parent or putative father is deceased and no further action, including a levy against the estate, can be taken;

(4) Paternity cannot be established because:

(i) The child is at least 18 years old and action to establish paternity is barred by a statute of limitations which meets the requirements of § 302.70(a)(5) of this chapter;

(ii) A genetic test or a court or administrative process has excluded the putative father and no other putative father can be identified; or

(iii) In accordance with § 303.5(b) of this part, the IV-D agency has determined that it would not be in the best interests of the child to establish paternity in a case involving incest or forcible rape, or in any case where legal proceedings for adoption are pending;

(5) The absent parent's location is unknown, and the State has made regular attempts using multiple sources to locate the absent parent over a three-year period, all of which have been unsuccessful;

(6) The absent parent cannot pay support for the duration of the child's minority because the parent has been institutionalized in a psychiatric facility, is incarcerated with no chance for parole, or has a medically-verified total and permanent disability with no evidence of support potential. The State must also determine that no income or assets are available to the absent parent which could be levied or attached for support;

(7) The absent parent is a citizen of, and lives in, a foreign country, does not work for the Federal government or a company with headquarters or offices in the United States, and has no reachable domestic income or assets; and the State has been unable to establish reciprocity with the country;

(8) The IV-D agency has provided location-only services as requested under § 302.35(c)(3) of this chapter;

(9) The non-AFDC custodial parent requests closure of a case and there is

no assignment to the State of medical support under 42 CFR 433.146 or of arrearages which accrued under a support order;

(10) There has been a finding of good cause as set forth at §302.31(c) and either §§232.40 through 232.49 of this chapter or 42 CFR 433.147 and the State or local IV-A, IV-E, or Medicaid agency has determined that support enforcement may not proceed without risk of harm to the child or caretaker relative;

(11) In a non-AFDC case receiving services under §302.33(a)(1) (i) or (iii), the IV-D agency is unable to contact the custodial parent within a 30 calendar day period despite attempts by both phone and at least one certified letter; or

(12) In a non-AFDC case receiving services under §302.33(a)(1) (i) or (iii), the IV-D agency documents the circumstances of the custodial parent's noncooperation and an action by the custodial parent is essential for the next step in providing IV-D services.

(c) In cases meeting the criteria in paragraphs (b) (1) through (7) and (11) and (12) of this section, the State must notify the custodial parent in writing 60 calendar days prior to closure of the case of the State's intent to close the case. The case must be kept open if the custodial parent supplies information in response to the notice which could lead to the establishment of paternity or a support order or enforcement of an order or, in the instance of paragraph (b)(11) of this section, if contact is reestablished with the custodial parent. If the case is closed, the custodial parent may request at a later date that the case be reopened if there is a change in circumstances which could lead to the establishment of paternity or a support order or enforcement of an order.

(d) The IV-D agency must retain all records for cases closed pursuant to this section for a minimum of three years, in accordance with 45 CFR part 74, subpart D.

[54 FR 32311, Aug. 4, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 8004, Feb. 26, 1991]

**§ 303.15 Agreements to use the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS) in parental kidnapping and child custody cases.**

(a) *Definitions.* The following definitions apply to this section:

(1) *Authorized person* means the following:

(i) Any agent or attorney of any State having an agreement under this section, who has the duty or authority under the laws of the State to enforce a child custody determination.

(ii) Any court having jurisdiction to make or enforce a child custody determination, or any agent of the court;

(iii) Any agent or attorney of the United States, or of a State having an agreement under this section, who has the duty or authority to investigate, enforce, or bring a prosecution with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child.

(2) *Custody determination* means a judgment, decree, or other order of a court providing for custody or visitation of a child, and includes permanent and temporary orders, and initial orders and modifications.

(b) If the State enters into an agreement with the Office that meets the requirements of section 463 of the Act and this section of the regulations, the State IV-D agency may request information from the Federal PLS for the purpose of:

(1) Enforcing any State or Federal law with respect to the unlawful taking or restraint of a child; or

(2) Making or enforcing a child custody determination.

(c) An agreement under section 463 of the Act must contain the following provisions:

(1) The Director will provide the State IV-D agency with the most recent home address and place of employment of an absent parent or child if the information is requested for the purposes specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) The State shall make requests for information under the agreement only for the purposes specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(3) The State shall make requests to the Federal PLS through the State